PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Peter M. Bonutti
Filing Date	:	herewith
For	:	TISSUE PRESS AND SYSTEM
Attorney Docket No.	:	BON-1712-11

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Before action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Between lines 1 and 2, please insert the following:

Related Applications

This application is a continuation of copending Application Serial No. 09/602,743, filed June 23, 2000. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 09/602,743 is itself a continuation of co-pending Application Serial No. 09/263,006 filed March 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,132,472. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 09/263,006 is itself a continuation of co-pending Application Serial No. 08/834,028 filed April 11, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,888,219. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/834,028 is itself a divisional of copending Application Serial No.

08/590,193 filed January 23, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,662,710. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/590,193 is itself a divisional of Application Serial No. 08/273,028 filed July 8, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,545,222. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/273,028 is itself a divisional of Application Serial No. 07/728,247 filed August 12, 1991, now U.S. Patent No. 5,329,846. The benefit of the earlier filing dates of the aforementioned applications is claimed.

A clean copy of this paragraph is enclosed.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2-61 without prejudice.

Please add the following claims:

62. A method comprising the steps of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body, and expanding the surgical implant while the surgical implant is disposed in the patient's body.

63. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein said step of expanding the surgical implant includes absorbing body fluid into the surgical implant.

64. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning an implant which is at least partially formed of body tissue in the patient's body.

65. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning an implant containing body tissue in a living condition in the patient's body.

66. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a composite surgical implant containing first and second types of body tissue, said step of positioning an implant in a patient's body includes positioning the composite surgical implant containing the first and second types of body tissue in the patient's body.

67. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of making a hydrophilic surgical implant, said step of positioning a surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the hydrophilic implant in the patient's body.

68. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of making a surgical implant which is at least partially formed of body tissue which is hydrophilic, said step of positioning surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the surgical implant which is at least partially formed of body tissue which is hydrophilic in the patient's body.

69. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of making a surgical implant which is at least partially formed of a biodegradable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the surgical implant which is at least partially formed of a biodegradable material in a patient's body.

70. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein the surgical implant is a fastener, said step of positioning a surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the fastener in engagement with tissue in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding a portion of the fastener disposed in engagement with tissue in the patient's body.

71. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes placing an expandable device in engagement with tissue in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding the expandable device while the expandable device is disposed in the patient's body.

72. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a wedge of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the wedge in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the wedge.

73. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a screw of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the screw in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the screw.

74. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a rivet of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the rivet in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the rivet.

75. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a retaining ring of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the retaining ring in the

patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the retaining ring.

76. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a spacer of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the spacer in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the spacer.

77. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of an intramedullary rod of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the intramedullary rod in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the intramedullary rod.

78. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a joint replacement part of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the joint replacement part in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the joint replacement part.

79. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a femoral component of an acetabular cup of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the femoral component of the acetabular cup in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the femoral component of the acetabular cup.

80. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming at least a portion of a expandable sleeve of expandable material, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the expandable sleeve in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding expandable material of the expandable sleeve.

81. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by placing body tissue cells on a base, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the base in the patient's body with the body tissue cells disposed on the base.

82. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by placing body tissue cells on sheet material, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the sheet material in the patient's body with the body tissue cells disposed on the sheet material.

83. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by shaping body tissue to a desired shape, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes moving the body tissue into the patient's body while the body tissue has the desired shape.

84. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by compressing bone tissue around tendon tissue, said step of positioning a surgical implant in the patient's body includes substituting the tendon around which the bone tissue has been compressed for a ligament in the patient's body.

85. A method as set forth in claim 62 wherein said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes utilizing the surgical implant to repair an anterior cruciate ligament.

86. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by combining a blood component with body tissue, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the blood component and body tissue in the patient's body.

87. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by centrifuging blood to separate one or more components from the blood and combining body tissue pieces with blood components, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning one or more components of the centrifuged blood and the body tissue pieces in the patient's body.

88. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by at least partially enclosing body tissue with a retainer formed of a biodegradable material, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the body tissue enclosed by the retainer formed of biodegradable material in the patient's body.

89. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by at least partially enclosing body tissue with a rigid retainer, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the body tissue enclosed by the rigid retainer in the patient's body.

90. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by at least partially enclosing body tissue and a bone growth enhancer with a retainer, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the body tissue and bone growth enhancer enclosed by the retainer in the patient's body.

91. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by compressing body tissue and positioning the compressed body tissue in a retainer, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the retainer with the compressed body tissue in the retainer, in the patient's body.

92. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant, said step of forming a surgical implant includes compressing body tissue in a retainer, said step of positioning a surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the compressed body tissue and retainer in the patient's body.

93. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant, said step of forming a surgical implant includes forming a wedge of compressed body tissue, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the wedge of compressed tissue in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding the wedge of compressed body tissue.

94. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by compressing liver cells, said step of positioning the surgical

implant in the patient's body includes positioning the compressed liver cells in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding the compressed liver cells in the patient's body.

95. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by compressing pancreas cells, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the compressed pancreas cells in the patient's body, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding the compressed pancreas cells in the patient's body.

96. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant having first and second components, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the first and second components of the surgical implant in the patient's body at a location where they are exposed to body fluid, said step of expanding the surgical implant includes absorbing body fluid with at least the first component of the surgical implant and expanding at least the first component of the surgical implant.

97. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by positioning bone and bone growth enhancers relative to a base, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the base, bone, and bone growth enhancers in the patient's body.

98. A method as set forth in claim 97 wherein said step of expanding the surgical implant includes expanding the base.

99. A method as set forth in claim 97 wherein said step of positioning bone and bone growth enhancers relative to a base includes positioning human bone particles relative to the base.

100. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by positioning human tissue relative to a base, said step of positioning the surgical implant in a patient's body includes positioning the human tissue and base relative to the patient's body.

101. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by harvesting human tissue and placing the human tissue on a structural support, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body include positioning the structural support and human tissue in the patient's body.

102. A method as set forth in claim 62 further including the step of forming a surgical implant by positioning body tissue on a biodegradable support structure, said step of positioning the surgical implant in the patient's body includes positioning the biodegradable support structure and body tissue in the patient's body.

REMARKS

This amendment is being submitted before action in order to expedite the prosecution of this application. If for any reason the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner call applicant's attorneys in Cleveland, Ohio at 621-2234, area code 216.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLEAN VERSION OF ADDITION TO SPECIFICATION

The following paragraph has been inserted between lines 1 and 2:

Related Applications

This application is a continuation of copending Application Serial No. 09/602,743, filed June 23, 2000. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 09/602,743 is itself a continuation of co-pending Application Serial No. 09/263,006 filed March 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,132,472. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 09/263,006 is itself a continuation of co-pending Application Serial No. 08/834,028 filed April 11, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,888,219. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/834,028 is itself a divisional of copending Application Serial No. 08/590,193 filed January 23, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,662,710. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/590,193 is itself a divisional of Application Serial No. 08/273,028 filed July 8, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,545,222. The aforementioned Application Serial No. 08/273,028 is itself a divisional of Application Serial No. 07/728,247 filed August 12, 1991, now U.S. Patent No. 5,329,846. The benefit of the earlier filing dates of the aforementioned applications is claimed.